



John Monforte, J.D. **Acting Cabinet Secretary** 

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## Former Santa Fe Resident Charged for Tax Evasion

**Santa Fe, N.M.** – The Taxation and Revenue Department announced today that a former Santa Fe resident has been officially charged for tax evasion. The charges follow a joint investigation by the Tax Fraud Investigations Division of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department and the Constructions Industries Division of the New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department. Mr. Gerald Medina, 52, was indicted on July 12, 2018 by a Taos County Grand Jury.

Medina, 52, has been charged with three fourth degree felony counts of Tax Evasion. The maximum sentence for three fourth degree felony counts is up to 5 years of imprisonment and \$10,000 in fines. Medina has also been charged with one second degree felony count of Fraud as well as two misdemeanor charges for Money Laundering (\$10,000 or less) and Contracting Without a License.

"People who attempt to cheat the system tend to have a mindset that they will slip through the cracks, avoid suspicion, and get away with their crimes. This case serves as a stark example that this mindset is flawed - these individuals will ultimately be caught, prosecuted and charged for their crimes," said John Monforte, Acting Cabinet Secretary for the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department. "This Department is committed to catching and bringing to justice those who attempt to defraud the State of New Mexico."

"We are here to protect New Mexicans – fraudulent activity in our community will not be tolerated," said Regulation and Licensing Superintendent Mike Unthank. "We will pursue all action to keep consumers safe in our state."

This case was investigated by the Tax Fraud Investigations Division of the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department as well as the Constructions Industries Division of the New Mexico Regulation and Licensing Department – the case is being prosecuted by the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District Attorney's Office in Taos, NM. To report tax fraud against the

State of New Mexico, call the Tax Fraud Hotline at 1-866-457-6789 or e-mail  $\underline{tax.fraud@state.nm.us}$ .